Nov. 4, 1930. E. D. OLSON ET AL 1,780,715

POULTRY MARKER

Filed Jan. 29, 1930

Fig. 1.

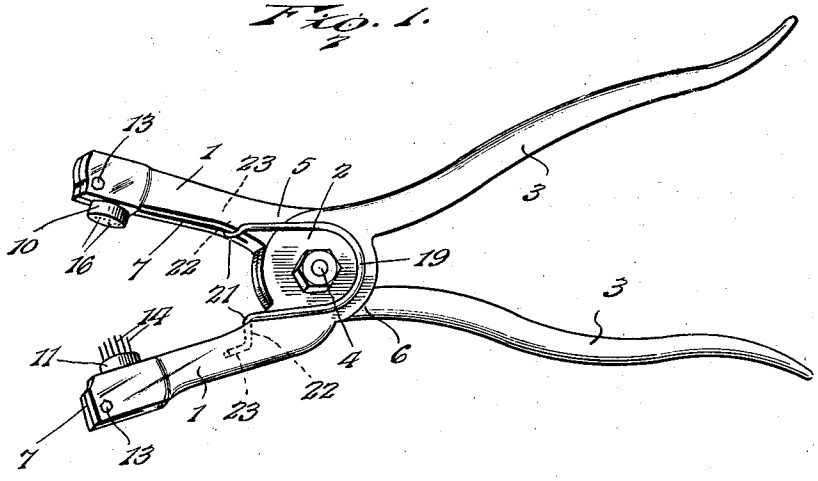


Fig. 2.

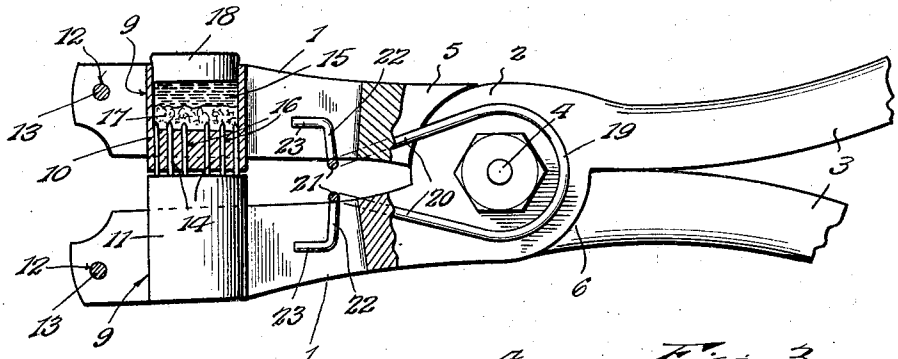
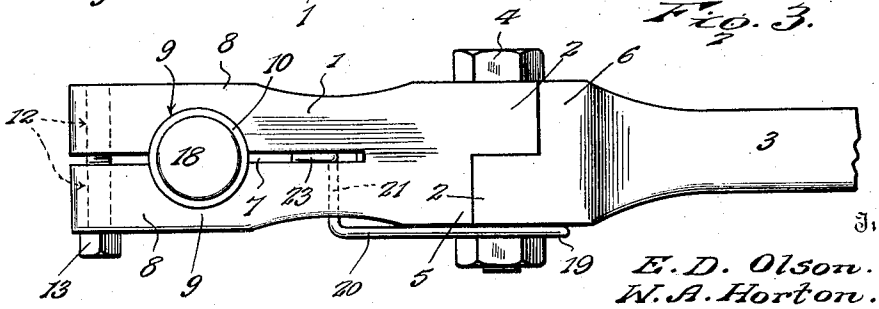


Fig. 3.



Inventors

E. D. Olson.

W. A. Horton.

By Lacey & Lacey, Attorneys

Patented Nov. 4, 1930 1,780,715

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

ELMER D. OLSON, OF GRAND ISLAND, AND WILLIAM A. HORTON, OF HASTINGS, NEBRASKA; SAID OLSON ASSIGNOR TO H. B. HORTON, OF DES MOINES, IOWA, AND C. E. LINN, OF HASTINGS, NEBRASKA

POULTRY MARKER

Application filed January 29, 1930. Serial No. 424,429.

This invention relates to poultry markers and more particularly to a device by means of which an identifying mark may be formed through the membrane of a wing and indelible ink or equivalent fluid caused to pass into perforations formed while marking so that the chicken or other fowl will be permanently marked for identification purposes.

One object of the invention is to provide a device of this character having pivotally mounted jaws formed with handle extensions so that the jaws may be easily forced toward each other when the marker is in use, a special type of spring being provided to urge the jaws apart and thereby allow the jaws to be easily moved away from each other after a marking operation has been completed.

Another object of the invention is to so form the jaws that companion dies may be applied thereto and firmly secured and also ends of the spring engaged by the jaws and prevented from accidentally slipping out of position to urge the jaws apart.

Another object of the invention is to provide a marker which will be very strong and durable and not liable to be damaged when carelessly handled.

This improved poultry marker is illustrated in the accompanying drawing, wherein Figure 1 is a perspective view of the marker.

Fig. 3 is an enlarged view showing the marker partially in side elevation and partially in longitudinal section, and

Fig. 3 is a top plan view of the marker with the handles broken off.

The jaws 1 of this marker are of a duplicate construction and each is formed with a bearing portion 2 from which extends a handle 3 which is curved longitudinally, as shown in Figure 1, so that the handles may be easily grasped and pressure applied to force the handles towards each other when the marker is in use. The bearings or hinge portions 2 are substantially circular in shape and are bored to form alined openings through which is passed a bolt 4 serving as a pivot pin for the jaws. Side portions of each jaw and handle engage about the bearing of the other jaw, as shown at 5 and 6, and these portions serve to guide movements of the jaws and also limit their movements when the handles and jaws are swung apart. Each jaw is slit longitudinally, as shown at 7, to form side sections 8 and opposed recesses 9 are formed in spaced relation to the free forward ends of the jaws. These recesses form sockets to receive dies 10 and 11 and in front of the sockets the jaws are bored to form alined passages 12. The passage 12 of one section of each jaw is threaded, whereas the corresponding passage of the other jaw section is unthreaded. Therefore, a bolt 13 may be passed through the unthreaded passage of each jaw and engaged in the threaded passage thereof to draw the sections toward each other and cause the dies to be firmly gripped and secured in the sockets of the jaws.

The dies 10 and 11 are formed, as shown in Figure 2, and referring to this figure it will be seen that the die 11 consists of a solid block or body having pins 14 projecting from its inner end. These pins are so set in the body of the die that when they are passed through the membrane of a chicken's wing a character will be formed in the membrane. This character may be a letter of the alphabet or any other desired mark or combination of marks such as the initials of the owner of the chickens. The die 10 is formed hollow to provide a pocket 15 open at its outer end and having a head at its inner end through which are formed openings 16 to receive the pins or puncturing elements 14 of the die 11. A pad 17 formed of absorbent material is placed in the pocket 15 and a plug 18 is fitted tightly into the outer end of the pocket so that after indelible ink or an equivalent marking fluid has been poured into the pocket to moisten the pad the outer end of the pocket may be closed and thereby prevent the fluid from evaporating or becoming spilled and also prevent dirt from entering the pocket. The pins 14 are of such length that they pass through the head of the die 10 and penetrate the pad in the pocket. Therefore, their inner ends will be coated with the marking fluid and when the jaws are spread apart after the pins have been forced through a chicken's wing the marking fluid will be carried into

the openings formed in the wing as the pins are extracted and cause the wing to be permanently marked.

In order to urge the jaws apart and thereby facilitate operation of the marker, there has been provided a spring 19 disposed at one side of the hingedly connected portions of the jaws. This spring consists of a strand of resilient wire bent to assume a U-shape, and from an inspection of Figures 1 and 2 it will be seen that the spring is disposed about the pivot pin or bolt 4 with its arms 20 extending forwardly along side faces of the two jaws. The forward portions of the two arms are bent inwardly to form side arms 21 which project inwardly across the jaws and these side arms are bent to form fingers 22 which extend into the slits 7 and terminate in portions 23 projecting forwardly. By this arrangement the fingers are disposed between the side sections of the jaws and have their end portions extending longitudinally thereof so that when the bolts 13 are tightened to cause the dies to be secured in the sockets the fingers will be firmly gripped by the two side portions and the spring firmly held in place.

When this marker is in use, the dies are set into the sockets of the two jaws with the pins of the die 11 engaged in the perforations of the die 10. The jaws are moved to a closed position before the dies are set into the sockets and after the dies have been set in place the bolts 13 are tightened so that the two dies will be firmly gripped. Therefore, the dies will be disposed in such relation to each other that the pins will always enter the openings and there will be no danger of the pins being bent by not properly entering the openings of the die 10. The chicken's wing is spread and the membrane placed between the jaws with the jaw carrying the die 11 disposed beneath the wing. Pressure is then applied to the handles to force the jaws toward each other and the pins will pass through the membrane of the wing and into the die 10 where their ends will be coated by the marking fluid. The handles are then forced apart to spread the jaws and as the pins are pressed outwardly through the wing the indelible ink or other marking fluid will enter openings formed by the pins and a permanent mark will be formed. The spring urges the jaws apart so that they may be easily separated and since it is applied as shown it will be firmly held in engagement with the jaws and prevented from moving out of proper relation thereto. If, for any reason, a new mark is desired, the dies already in use can be easily removed and a new set applied.

Having thus described the invention, we claim:

1. A poultry marker comprising jaws having pivotally connected portions and handles extending therefrom, each jaw being split longitudinally to form side sections and formed with sockets, companion dies engaged in said sockets, bolts passed transversely through said jaws to draw companion sections towards each other and bind the dies in the sockets, and a spring consisting of a resilient strand bent to form a portion extending about the pivotal connection of said jaws and arms extending alongside faces of the jaws, said arms having their forward portions bent inwardly across the jaws and engaged between the side sections of the jaws.

2. A poultry marker comprising jaws having pivotally connected portions and handles extending therefrom, each jaw having side sections spaced transversely from each other, companion dies engaged between the side sections of said jaws, means to draw the side sections of said jaws towards each other to bind the dies between them, and a spring having a portion extending about the pivotal connection of the jaws and arms extending along side faces of the jaws and bent to form side arms extending across inner faces of the jaws, said side arms being bent to form fingers extending between side sections of the jaws and terminating in portions extending longitudinally of the jaws whereby the fingers may be firmly gripped between the side sections of the jaws.

3. A poultry marker comprising jaws having pivotally connected portions and handles extending therefrom, each jaw being split longitudinally to form side sections and formed with sockets, companion dies engaged in said sockets, a spring to yieldably hold the jaws spread apart consisting of a resilient strand bent to form a U-shaped portion fitting against a side of said marker about the pivotal connection of said jaws and having its arms extending forwardly against side faces of the jaws, said arms being bent to extend inwardly across the jaws and terminating in fingers engaged between side sections thereof and having portions extending longitudinally of the jaws, and means to draw the side sections of the jaws towards each other and firmly clamp the dies and fingers.

4. A poultry marker comprising jaws pivotally connected and having handles extending therefrom, said jaws being each split longitudinally and formed with a socket in spaced relation to its free forward end, alined openings being formed transversely through said jaws in front of said sockets, a die fitted into the socket of one jaw and having character forming pins extending from its inner end, a block fitted into the socket of the other jaw and formed with a pocket opening through its outer end and a head at its inner end, perforations being formed through the head to receive said pins and opening into said pocket whereby the pins may be moistened with marking fluid in the pocket, a removable closure for the open outer end of said pocket, a

spring to normally hold the jaws spread apart consisting of a resilient strand bent to form a U-shaped portion fitting against a side face of said marker about the pivotal connection for said jaws and having arms extending forwardly along the jaws and having their forward portions bent inwardly across the jaws and engaged in the longitudinally extending slits thereof back of the sockets, and securing bolts engaged through the transverse openings in the jaws.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures.

ELMER D. OLSON. [L. S.]
WILLIAM A. HORTON. [L. S.]